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EFFICACY OF A POPULAR DEMAND FOR PEACE.—Rulers both in England and America will go for peace or for war, just as the people go ; and it was obviously *their* demand for a settlement without bloodshed, that eventually secured our present treaty. When the war-breeze blew from Maine, Webster himself made speeches in favor of war ; but, on learning that the people were not for war, he soon corrected his mistake, and began at their bidding to labor with well known zeal and success for a peaceful adjustment of our difficulties.

INFLUENCE OF THE PEACE MOVEMENT IN SECURING THIS RESULT.--Had public opinion been what it was fifty years ago, war would have been inevitable ; and this change, so obvious and striking through Christendom, has been produced mainly by the blessing of God upon efforts in the cause of peace. It is impossible to account for it in any other way ; and thus the late treaty is in fact a legitimate result, a glorious triumph, of the cause of peace. Nor is this its only trophy ; for it was doubtless instrumental of preventing a war first with France, and next with Mexico. How many others it may have averted, we cannot know ; but of these we are quite certain, nor any the less so because the heedless millions are so ignorant or so regardless of the fact.

SUPERIOR VALUE OF PEACE THUS OBTAINED.—It contains within itself the guarantee of its own permanency. It leaves no sting behind, no mortification or chagrin, no rankling of wounded pride, no spirit of animosity or revenge, to operate as fatal incentives to a series of subsequent wars. It insures a fair reciprocity of benefits, and produces an interchange of kind and generous feelings, which pave the way for a satisfactory and lasting peace. One such peace is worth a score achieved by the sword.

PREPARES FOR WAR OF NO USE IN SECURING THE LATE TREATY.—The negotiators seem not once to have thought of these preparations on either side ; and had there been no forts, or fleets, or armies in England or America, the result would have been the same. We doubt whether these war-preparations had the weight of a feather in the scale ; and any array or threat of them would have strongly tended to defeat the treaty. It was the result not of war measures, but of influences exerted by the friends of peace.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO EFFORTS IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE.—This treaty is a striking illustration of their importance and efficacy. All the money expended in this cause during a quarter of a century, would not support the war-system of Christendom, even in peace, a single hour ; and yet this mere pittance has under God prevented many a war, and saved myriads of treasures, and thousands, perhaps millions of lives. In no cause whatever has so much been accomplished by so small an amount of means ; and adequate efforts would ensure the peace of the civilized world through all coming time.

RECENT TREATY WITH ENGLAND.

The importance of this event to the cause of peace through the world is very imperfectly understood ; but the manner in which it has been received in both countries, and throughout Christendom, proves how strong is the

general sympathy in favor of peace. All our readers know, that most of our own papers were for a time full of the subject; and we quote from the London *New Moral World*, some specimens of the views and feelings entertained on the other side of the Atlantic.

"RATIONAL MODE OF SETTLING NATIONAL DISPUTES."—Events which betoken a growing rationality among nations now and then occur, that shed a rainbow-like radiance on the clouds of darkness and error by which they are surrounded. They are not so much valuable for what they actually perform as what they promise. Of this character is the mission of Lord Ashburton to America, the treaty he has just concluded with the United States—the friendly and honorable treatment he has received from the most influential parties since their completion, and the enlightened sentiments mutually exchanged by our ambassador and those who publicly assembled in the leading cities, to congratulate him on the successful results of his mission of peace.

We receive the treaty on the boundary and other questions, as an indication that nations professing to be civilized and Christian, are at length beginning to find out that there are other and better modes of settling differences than referring them to the arbitration of the sword. From whatever causes the disposition to peaceful negotiation may spring, it deserves cherishing; and those statesmen, in every country, who adopt such an enlightened and humane policy should be cheered and supported by the expression of the sympathy of all philanthropists.

It is only when the magnitude of the evils that war or its anticipation inflicts on nations begins to be even imperfectly apprehended, that we can duly estimate the value of any step which seems, even remotely, to pioneer the way to a more rational mode of settling disputes, and by consequence, the liberation of the mighty mass of national energy now locked up by the ever existing necessity of being prepared to meet force by force, and referring all differences to the dread argument of the sword and the cannon.

IMPORTANCE OF THIS EXAMPLE.—“England and America have, in the instance before us, come forward to set an honorable example to other nations. The questions now terminated by peaceful discussion and mutual concession, have for years constituted a festering sore with both nations, which the slightest circumstance caused to assume a threatening and dangerous appearance. The war-power in each country, the beings whom society unfortunately trains to become human tigers, ready to spring on any prey that offers, were always eager to seize upon the slightest occasion that occurred to stir up angry feelings; and these ‘vexed questions’ offered an ever-ready handle. They are now removed. So much the less aliment is offered to nurture this cruel and anti-social spirit; and the example meantime will not, we trust, be without its due influence in other quarters.

The kindly and enlightened sentiments in which Lord Ashburton and his trans-atlantic entertainers reciprocally indulged, may be looked upon as the voice of the two great nations they represented. Occupying as they do the front rank in intellect, wealth, energy, and enterprise, it speaks hopefully of the progress of moralization. They, in effect, repudiate the former savage, senseless, and brutal mode of meeting national disputes, and proclaim that henceforth reason shall supersede the sword; and the arts of war give place to the gentler and bliss-diffusing arts of peace.

ITS TENDENCY TO A CONGRESS OF NATIONS.—“Nations will at last learn the important lesson that nothing is to be obtained by war, which cannot be had at a much less expense without it. The introduction of a higher morality and greater enlightenment will lead to the establishment of a Supreme Court of Arbitration before whom all disputes will come for settlement. In this, nations will only be adopting collectively, what has long been so individually. In the savage state man revenges his own

wrongs, fights his own battles, protects his own property. Force is his only weapon, and he uses it. In artificial society, he surrenders the power of doing this to certain constituted authorities, who act for him upon certain generally laid down and confirmed principles. The adoption of a universal court of judicature would be simply an extension of the same principle. Were society properly organized, to what incalculable results might it not lead! The beneficial industrial direction of its vast armies is among the most obvious, and yet the least valuable of its consequences."

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

WAR COLD-BLOODED.—In Col. Wymer's report of the battle between the British troops and Affghans, near the city of Candahar, on the 27th of March last, he says:—"I trust I may be permitted to bring to the Major General's notice the admirable practice of the artillery under Lieut. Turner's guidance, every shot from which told with *beautiful effect* upon the dense masses of the enemy."

"Beautiful effect!" How beautiful to butcher men by wholesale! What a monster must war have made this officer, before he could have used such language for such a purpose.

DECLINE OF THE FIGHTING SPIRIT.—The Philadelphia Evening Courier states that the demand for Bowie knives has abated recently, and that a dealer in cutlery in that city has disposed of a quantity bought for the Carthagena market, at \$1 50 each, the original price being \$20. The inference, therefore, is, that the thirst for maiming and killing with these accursed weapons has declined in this country.

"A friend of ours," says another paper, "who resided some time in Louisville, Ky., lately, to ascertain the improvement of morals in respect to the use of weapons, consulted several dealers in cutlery. They informed him that in former years, the sale of *Bowie knives, pistols, Kentucky knives, and Arkansas tooth-picks*, constituted a very necessary, important, and somewhat profitable portion of their trade. But within three years, they had sold so few of these, that they had not, within that time, replenished their stock, nor should they probably ever purchase any more."

We have ourselves heard similar statements from residents or travellers in the duelling sections of our country. The popularity of once reputable murders is fast declining; and the worst passions of man generally flow in the channels of public sentiment.

THE FEAR OF WAR INJURIOUS TO BUSINESS.—In his speech at Boston last autumn, Mr. Webster said, "If I understand the matter, there were four or five great objects for which the whigs struggled. The first great object was to establish a permanent peace between this country and England; for, although there was no war, there was a perpetual agitation, which, by rendering men uncertain of the future, and by lessening their ability to calculate the chances of success, interfered with business one half as much as a war would have done."

The *fear of war* "one half" as injurious to business as actual war would be! Abolish the war-system, and nations would no more apprehend war than New England does duels. How much would such an event contribute to the stability and success of business in all its departments.

HOW WOMEN ENCOURAGE WAR.—Mr. Updike, during a debate in the recent legislature of R. I., "said that some encouragement was necessary to be given to companies in that section, or they would disband. He dwelt very happily upon the influence of the *ladies* in fostering a military spirit, and said that while they rained flowers, and waved handkerchiefs,